

Third. Developing its home and its home's appointments.

The functions of the first and second groups have been performed continuously since the foundation of our Society forty years ago, more or less successfully, as its officers and members have shown interest and given of their best thought. Unquestionably much progress has been made in the last three years, and with the enthusiasm and inspiration of the young, well-trained members, a bright future for harmonious fellowship and scientific work seems assured.

It is the third function, that of its home and appointments, I wish to emphasize. The home has certainly been neglected. The Los Angeles County Society should own its building or rooms which at any time might be extended as money is provided. Many societies and organizations of this city which are mere infants compared with our Medical Society, have each at the present time their own home and equipment, and yet do not clothe, feed or protect their members as a home of this Society could do. The special appointments of the home referred to are: access to a medical library and museum. Where the Society has its home there should the library be situated, as a medical library is the most important asset of a growing and united profession or society. As the library has been earlier developed, the home of the profession should have close connection with it. Discord, mistrust and jealousy must be put aside to attain what is best for the greatest number and for the highest development of a medical unit in Southern California. The time has come for us to make the best use of what has been already planted here by uniting to the Medical Society that which will add to its dignity and usefulness.

The other appointment referred to is a pathological museum. A good beginning by the profession here has been evidenced by the receipt of the first prize last spring given by the American Medical Association. Through an adjoining building to the home a compact group could well be made of the three buildings, namely: society rooms, library and museum, of which the members of this Society could well be proud, and in which the profession of the West with envy would rejoice.

Many advantages that seem at first luxuries become in time actual necessities. This is true in the commercial life as well as in the professional life. For this Society to-day to have easy access to an indexed library or pathological museum, would safely be thought advantageous, and to-morrow for it to be deprived of either would actually interfere with its very soul and life.

Holmes in one of his essays put it thus: "Our practitioners need a library—for with all their skill and devotion there is too little erudition such as a liberal profession should be able to claim for many of its members. They must clear up this unilluminated atmosphere and here is the true electric light which will irradiate its darkness."

Colleagues, this can be accomplished in a short time through unanimous agreement, and by burying the smallness of opposition that may arise through individual jealousies or prejudices, an accomplish-

ment that would please and prosper the future members of this Society, and attainable with less expense to our present members, because the state has already committed itself to help and further the interest of medical education and the profession of this section, in so far as the people and medical men of Southern California show their strength of purpose toward that end. All effort for others, advantages and help given to our brothers here now or to those who come after, bring the greatest satisfaction and pleasure and make this short life worth the while.

I wish to extend to each member of this Society best wishes and appreciation for their attendance, support and loyalty at the meetings, especially to those who have attended to and made the scientific programs a success; to the members who gave the series on the History of Medicine, and to those who presented each month the Current Literature; to the Councilors, my gratitude for attendance at meetings, and for timely aid as needed in conducting the business affairs. To the man who by unceasing, unselfish, untiring and constant toil has developed this Society, its progress, its Bulletin, and the best that it stands for to-day—Dr. Kress, our secretary—my thanks and appreciation are gladly acknowledged.

Members, as President I bid you farewell and God-speed.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

ADDRESS OF DR. OPHULS, PRESIDENT.

*Annual Meeting San Francisco County Medical Society, December 12, 1911.*

At the beginning of my presidential address, it is my pleasant duty to express my great and most sincere appreciation to the Board of Directors and to the members of the San Francisco County Medical Society for electing me to fill this most important office in the Society. I shall always look back upon this year with the greatest pleasure in view of the most cordial and effective support given me by the Society at large, more especially by those who undertook the often arduous duties on the different standing and special committees and by the individual members of the Board of Directors, without which splendid support it would have been impossible to accomplish anything.

The Society hardly appreciates fully the amount of detail business which the Board of Directors have to dispose of for them, and if they confer an honor upon them by electing them to this responsible position, they at the same time owe them a deep debt of gratitude for their earnest devotion to the interests of the Society.

The other officers, standing committees and commissions of the Society will furnish separate reports. Still it would be hardly just on my part if I should not mention the splendid work performed by all of them, and enter into some detail in regard to some of the more important points that happen to be more strongly impressed upon my mind.

First of all I wish to speak of the untiring labors of our Secretary. To him more than anybody the success of last year, if there be any, is due. He has continued his able efforts to put the affairs of the Society on a sound financial basis by his untiring energy in collecting dues and by his systematic and successful campaign for an increased membership. As you will observe from his report, his labors have not been wasted, and so far as an increase in membership is concerned, have been crowned with the most gratifying result.

In his work he has enjoyed the hearty and effective co-operation of our Executive and Finance Committees. The Finance Committee has given its time unsparingly and the Society may rest assured that nothing has escaped their watchful eye. I believe, however, that at present the responsibility which rests upon the Finance Committee is heavier than the Society has any right to impose upon them. In closing up their affairs annually they should be granted the assistance of a paid public accountant in order to relieve them of a mass of detail which they cannot master entirely and in order to give proper discharge to the Secretary.

I think I may state with confidence that our scientific meetings during the last year, as well the general meetings as those of the sections, have had an unusually large attendance, for which our first thanks are due to the Executive Committee and the officers of the sections, through whose co-operation the delightful programs were made possible, that we had the pleasure of enjoying. We have also had some interesting special meetings. I wish to refer especially to the evening when two distinguished visitors from the East, Dr. Harvey Cushing of Baltimore and Dr. Crile of Cleveland, presented their masterly addresses and when we had the pleasure of having with us Dr. Wm. H. Welch of Baltimore.

Last summer has been an especially interesting one from a medical point of view on account of the many Eastern visitors who passed through San Francisco in connection with the meeting of the American Medical Association at Los Angeles.

Some criticism has been heard in regard to the prolonged discussion of a therapeutic measure of still doubtful value. I personally hope that the Society will always remain an open forum for matters in which a considerable number of its members take a strong interest, and the more seriously and thoroughly such a discussion is gone into, the better it will be for all concerned. I believe that untold harm must come from a too narrow limitation of the subject matters to be discussed by the Society or in the selection of those who shall present them for discussion.

The success of our section meetings has amply demonstrated the value of having weekly meetings. I also feel that the exchange of program with the Alameda County Medical Society was a step in the right direction. Everything possible should be done to bring the members of the medical fraternity in the cities around the Bay into close personal contact. It is only in this way that we learn to know and to appreciate one another fully and to stand

united against the many evil influences from the outside.

Your Committee on Medical Legislation has had a hard tussle with these same sinister spirits, and in spite of their vigorous efforts, the Medical Law was amended against their wishes and a vaccination bill was passed, the efficiency of which remains to be tested by the future, but there are grave doubts in my mind whether the compromise effected by the guardians of the health of this state with the Legislature was in the nature of progress. Only those who have served the Society in this capacity can fully appreciate the difficulties of the task of this committee.

Those of you who avail themselves of the privileges of our library will have noticed with pleasure the many improvements made and will join with me in expressing their best thanks to the Librarian and to our Library Committee.

Of social events in the course of the last year, I have to record two: the smoker in honor of Prof. Fuchs of Vienna, the Lane lecturer of the last year, and the dinner in honor of—well, never mind whom. The delightful evening with Prof. Fuchs, we owe to a large extent to the initiative of our Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Section. There were many guests from all over the state and it is to be hoped that they enjoyed our hospitality in the same spirit in which it was offered. The dinner was well attended. There were over 100 members present, and thanks to the labors of the Entertainment Committee and especially its chairman, Dr. Kugeler, it was an unqualified success.

The requirements formulated last year by your Committee on Hospitals and Contract Practice were adopted by the Society and the Hospital Commission was established. It has gone about its work in a thorough and conscientious manner, and although much remains undone, a basis has been laid from which many important results may develop in the future.

Another very important step was taken in the appointment of a Committee on Publicity. It is to be hoped that this committee will be transformed into a permanent commission to gather the necessary materials and to aid in the dissemination of useful information to the public on matters medical. Under any form of government, but more especially under the one which we are enjoying, the education of the public must be the first effort in the line of progress. We can never hope to accomplish our desires in regard to public health and individual hygiene, upon which after all the success and well being of our community depends in the long run without the backing of a strong and well advised public opinion.

I also wish to reiterate the recommendation made by our last president, that in order to assure stability in the administration of our affairs, the Board of Directors serve for two years, one-half of the members being elected one year, and the other the next.

The question of renting meeting and office rooms from the Trustees of Leland Stanford Jr. University and of our placing our library in the same

building was fully discussed by a special committee consisting of Drs. W. W. Kerr, Dudley Tait, P. M. Jones, R. L. Porter and Chas. G. Levison. A statement in regard to the matter was submitted to the members of the Society. A large majority of those who answered expressed themselves in favor of the proposal. Replies were received from about two-thirds of the membership. In spite of this expression of opinion, the Board of Directors decided to lay the matter on the table, largely because there seemed to be some fear that the Society was unable to meet the requirements of the contract which was proposed, financially. I believe that the question is not solved finally. The Society needs better accommodations for its meetings, its offices and for the library. The placing of the two libraries in one building and the creation of a medical center in San Francisco would be of inestimable benefit to the profession. So far as I can see, the necessities of the Society could not be met by any other scheme on more advantageous terms, and I personally am still strongly of the opinion that at some future date the logic of facts will convince even the most conscientious objector, and no doubt an arrangement can then be made which at the same time would satisfy any demands which the Society can justly make and give the profession what it needs, a large collection of medical literature under one roof administered independently, if you will, to common advantage.

I also wish to call the attention of the Society to the existence of a considerable fund for the benefit of its own library. We have in our possession a capital of \$8,000 originally given for relief purposes, which on July 14, 1913, when it will have increased to \$10,000, becomes available for library purposes under the direction of our Board of Directors. The use of the fund is limited by its donors to this purpose. The income from this fund together with what the Society can appropriate for the library will put our library in a very good financial condition. It will not suffice, however, to build up a great and comprehensive medical library which by itself could aspire to that degree of completeness which the student of medical literature can justly demand.

In conclusion, I wish to express again my most heartfelt thanks for the great honor which you have conferred upon me and for the many pleasant hours which I have been privileged to spend with you in my capacity as presiding officer.

WM. OPHULS.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1911.

Mr. President and Members of the Society:

As Secretary I beg leave to submit the following report for the year 1911—i. e., from December 10, 1910, to December 10, 1911, inclusive:

Number of members in Society Dec. 10, 1910..	477
New members admitted.....	52
Resigned .....	2
Transferred to other county societies.....	5
Died .....	6

Expelled .....	1
Dropped for non-payment of dues.....	1
Reinstated after payment of dues.....	34
Number of members in Society Dec. 10, 1911..	548

It will be noted that we have 71 more members in good standing than last year. In spite of continued efforts on our part, it is most difficult to make members understand that dues are payable in advance and not at the end of the year. For this reason the balance on hand is of necessity quite small. From members in good standing there is a balance due the Society of \$858.50. Most of this will undoubtedly be collected very late this month or the early part of January. We have prepared an amendment to the By-Laws upon which the Society will vote next month which we hope will be effectual in compelling members to pay their dues as they should. Taking all in all, the Society is on a good sound financial basis.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT, DECEMBER 10, 1910, TO DECEMBER 10, 1911.

##### *Receipts.*

Balance on hand Dec. 10, 1910.....	\$ 498.30
Collected from members and rental of Library .....	6,484.05
Total receipts .....	\$6,982.35

##### *Disbursements.*

Rent .....	\$1,240.00
California State Med. Soc., in lieu of exchanges .....	180.00
Salary of office assistant.....	721.50
Secretary's salary and bond.....	205.00
Laundry .....	18.00
Library Bills .....	436.57
Printing (envelopes and stamps for Soc. and Committees) .....	583.56
Telephone .....	133.60
Hospital Commission (Attorney's Fee) .....	125.00
Committee on Necrology (engraving for annual report) .....	12.00
Assessment to State Society.....	2,229.00
Incidentals (water, rent safe deposit box, insurance on library, taxes, entertainment, rent of hall for Crile meeting, experting 1909 secretary's books, Com. on Poliomyelitis, housing Commission, etc.) .....	234.70
Total .....	\$6,118.93

Balance on hand.....\$863.42

The Society owns furthermore, 5 San Francisco North Pacific bonds, expiring January 1st, 1919; also 3 North Pacific Coast Railway bonds, expiring January 1st, 1912. The accumulated interest of this fund amounted to \$1,233.17 on July 1st, 1911, this money being on deposit in the Savings Union Bank of San Francisco.

The following is a statement of the monthly receipts and disbursements of the Society since December 10, 1910, when I filed my last report, up to December 10, 1911:

	Collected.	Checks Pd.
Balance Dec. 10, 1910..\$	498.30	
Dec. 10 to 30, 1910...	247.60	8.40
January .....	194.00	577.85
February .....	1,190.00	311.25
March .....	432.50	739.59
April .....	144.00	268.70
May .....	514.75	721.89
June .....	353.00	371.70
July .....	1,353.80	706.50
August .....	451.40	221.75
September .....	350.00	342.16
October .....	565.00	1,256.79
November .....	451.50	342.30
Dec. 1 to 10.....	236.50	250.05
	<u>\$6,982.35</u>	<u>\$6,118.93</u>
Balance on hand...\$	863.42	

Respectfully submitted,

RENÉ BINE.

By December 31, 1911, we will be called upon to pay about \$300 outstanding bills; also \$250 of the 1911 library bills.

#### REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

During the current year 425 books have been added to the library, making a total of about 5,000 volumes. We are now receiving 150 American journals and 50 foreign publications. The policy of your librarian has been the development of a working library, in no sense a competitor of the more important and indispensable Lane Library. Hence, our co-operation with numerous other medical libraries in view of completing our valuable domestic and foreign files. With a slight additional yearly allowance the Library Committee will be able to supply the sections of Urology, Otology and Ophthalmology with adequate reference material. Later, it may be possible to provide the members of the Society free of charge with a library assistant trained in bibliographical research. A not inconsiderable portion, almost half, of the year's allowance was devoted to the proper binding of files. Better lantern facilities will be available at an early date.

DUDLEY TAIT, Librarian.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS.

To the Members of the San Francisco County Medical Society:

The Committee on Admissions, consisting of Drs. Alderson, Alvarez, Culver, Hyman and Rumwell, beg to report that during the year they have passed fifty-two applicants for membership and have rejected one applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRY E. ALDERSON,  
Chairman Com. on Admissions.

#### REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

To the President and Members of the San Francisco County Medical Society:

The Executive Committee has during the past year attended to its duties to the best of its ability

and has endeavored to prepare programs of interest to the members by exercising a supervision which would be just and equitable to all.

We are proud of the interest taken by the Society in the Section plan of holding meetings. We believe that all now realize that the business meeting and literary program of a society as large as ours cannot be adequately handled in one meeting per month and that the present plan, founded on that of the New York Academy of Medicine, is far superior.

There is one phase of this question which I want to bring before the Society and I wish to urge the incoming Board of Directors and Executive Committee to take due notice of it. I have found a great unwillingness on the part of many members to appear at any but the general meeting, their idea being apparently that a better audience will be present at the general than at the section meetings. This has sometimes put the Executive Committee in embarrassing positions, making it necessary to seem to favor some of the members over others. Unless some remedy is found for this trouble the section meetings of the Society will not long endure. One would suppose that pride in the success of the section would impel its members to gladly bring their best work before it and I am glad to say for the credit of the surgeons that this has been the case with the members of the Surgical and Urological Sections and the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Section.

Strangely enough the physicians have as a rule refused to appear before the Medical Section, and I now recall but two who have requested permission to do so while many have strongly insisted on being assigned to the General Section.

It would, of course, be ridiculous to abolish the Medical Section and turn over the General Meeting to the internists. I suggest that a rule be enacted to the effect that the General Meeting shall be reserved for the business of the Society, entertainment of eminent visitors and reports of committees. The President can, if necessary, appoint committees on subjects of general interest, such as the Committee on Anterior Poliomyelitis appointed by Dr. Porter. These committees can give their reports at the General Meetings, and the special papers submitted can then be assigned to the section to which they belong.

Should this rule be adopted, I feel certain that the success of the section plan is assured, and it will then no longer be necessary to import speakers from Berkeley and Palo Alto to fill the program left vacant by the members of the Medical Section.

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS SAYRE MACE,  
Chairman Executive Committee.

#### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Mr. President and Members of the San Francisco County Medical Society:

The Finance Committee wishes to report that it has held monthly meetings and has signed all the vouchers; accounted the books of the secretary-treasurer and found everything in order.

The committee recommends on the advice of

competent business men, that the three North Pacific Coast Railway bonds (January 1, 1912,) be allowed to mature and that the principal and accrued interest on them, and on the other bonds (five San Francisco North Pacific bonds), be re-invested. (Accrued interest, \$1,233.17.)

Respectfully submitted,

JULE B. FRANKENHEIMER,  
Chairman Finance Committee.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL ETHICS.

Mr. President and Members of the San Francisco County Medical Society:

Gentlemen:

The Committee on Medical Ethics has the honor to present herewith the report of its activities for the past year.

In January a charge of unethical conduct involved in certain offensive advertising in the daily papers of San Francisco was preferred against Dr. H. G. Martin, a member of this Society, by its Secretary, Dr. Bine. The only answer to the charge was a letter from Dr. Martin disclaiming the jurisdiction of the Society to pass on the ethics of his conduct, accompanied by his letter of resignation. By unanimous vote of the committee it was recommended that Dr. Martin be expelled from the Society.

In the same month an anonymous letter was received, signed "A Member of the Same Society," complaining of the presence of a simple professional card of Dr. Jos. Ardenyi in a daily paper. As there was absolutely no ground for the complaint, it was suggested to the Secretary, that by a brief communication to be printed in the Society's monthly bulletin setting forth the inoffensiveness of a card of this character, any critic would be reassured.

In May, and again in November, communications were received from the Secretary, transmitting complaints of the offensive and misleading nature of certain advertisements appearing in Italian, in certain local Italian dailies, inserted by Dr. A. De Lucis. A letter to Dr. De Lucis resulted in a call by him upon the chairman of this committee.

The doctor earnestly deprecated any intent to mislead or misrepresent through the advertisements and volunteered to so word them that no fault be found with them. The second complaint from the same source, accompanied by a clipping similar in all respects to the first, was proven by Dr. De Lucis to have been taken from an issue of about the same, or a date previous to the one first complained of. The advertisements which he had been running since the first complaint contained nothing of an offensive character.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN C. SPENCER, Chairman.

#### REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

To the Members of the San Francisco County Medical Society:

The work of the Library Committee has of necessity been limited to one or two meetings, for the reason that the policy of the Society in library

matters is already well defined and the monetary allowance restricted. On the whole the journal-list of the preceding year has been maintained and some of the more important journals have been bound. This side of the work will undoubtedly be covered by the Librarian's report.

Two matters have come up for discussion during the year. The first relates to a communication from the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Section asking for an appropriation by this committee for a sum of money for special journals relating to its special field. The committee did not feel that it could do anything in this matter this year for the reason that the budget allowed by the Finance Committee was just enough to cover the current expenses of the present journal-list which even now by no means covers the fields of general interest.

The second matter relates to a proposition made by Dr. Millberry in the name of the Dental Society of this city, whereby this Dental Society would keep its journals in our library. The details of the plan would have to be worked out. We believe that this general proposition should be taken up with the Dental Society at the beginning of the next year. Apart from any financial gain to our Society, an arrangement of this kind might tend to cement more closely the common interests of both organizations.

AUGUST JEROME LARTIGAU,

Chairman Lib. Committee.

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION.

At the last session of the State Legislature various medical bills of all kinds and sorts were introduced in both houses. Bills defining the practice of medicine; providing fines for illegal practitioners; for the appointment of a board on mechanotherapy, and others of even lesser import. These serially met defeat. Realizing that the appointment of any board by the Governor would always appeal to the political mind, Senator Hurd introduced a bill (Senate Bill 875), providing for the appointment of a board of medical examiners by the Governor; also, providing for the issuing of three forms of certificates; one for the practice of medicine and surgery; one for the practice of osteopathy; one for the practice of any other form of medicine; also legalizing the practice of an Oakland quack of thirty-five years' standing in deception. Although we had the best reason to believe that this bill would never become a law, even though passed by both houses, nevertheless, contrary to our expectations, the Governor signed the Hurd bill and it is now a law of the State. However, the Governor has never taken advantage of the opportunity afforded him to appoint a new board, preferring to allow the board selected by the respective medical societies to continue in office. The law as it now stands is not in accord with the opinion of the profession, and a determined effort must be made at the next regular session of the State Legislature to have it so amended that it will be once more in harmony with the best interests of the public.

Respectfully submitted,

F. B. CARPENTER,

Chairman Committee on Legislation.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BANQUETS.

This committee, composed of Drs. Kugeler, Alderson, and Bine, was appointed early in March by President Ophuls. Under its auspices the Society held its annual dinner on the 21st of November. Through its Secretary, the committee wishes to make the following report:

Over 100 members attended the banquet which was held at Techau Tavern and which, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Kugeler, was a very great success.

A rumor had been circulated that a distinguished Russian scientist would attend the dinner and much curiosity was displayed and many of the members expressed desires of being introduced to the famous foreigner, who, somewhat late, entered the room, and took his seat between the President and Secretary of the Society. Dr. Kugeler, somewhat later, introduced the genial physiologist, who read a rather comical pseudo-scientific paper, and then to everybody's surprise offered to sing in appreciation of the reception accorded him by the Society.

Needless to say, they all "bit." The entertainer hired for the occasion did his work well and it was only when his song descended to the modern American level that the majority of the members realized that they had been hoaxed.

During the course of the evening, members were further entertained by Supervisor-elect Caglieri, Langley Porter, (who pretended that he had come in the interests of the League for Medical Freedom), Wm. F. Cheney, J. W. Shiels, (whose play we hope to publish in an early issue of the JOURNAL), J. Dennis Arnold, V. G. Vecki and Rene Bine, who as secretary pretended to read papers presented by members of the Society.

After last year's banquet the Society was obliged to make good a deficit of \$25.00. The Committee on Entertainment this year is pleased to report that the Society will probably receive from it a surplus of several dollars.

#### REPORT OF THE MEDICAL MILK COMMISSION.

It is with much pleasure that after five years' connection with the Certified Milk Commission of this Society, I am now able to give you the present report of its progress.

The affairs of the Commission were never more flourishing. Five years ago when we met to organize the Commission, we had the promise of 190 subscribers, each of whom agreed to take a quart of certified milk daily, provided some one could be found who would on this slender encouragement, be willing to undertake its production. You have been informed in previous reports that Mr. F. V. Nelson of this city dared to engage in this business of certified milk production against the advice of his friends and business associates. How he developed his ranch through the many difficulties of experimentation with which the pioneer is always beset, until with an output of over fifteen hundred quarts a day, he had proved to all that his confidence in the Commission and in the future of pure milk had been well founded, you know. I believe that the medical profession and all interested in the pure milk problem are tremendously indebted to Mr. Nelson for what he has done.

We have two other certified milk plants in operation besides the original one. H. R. Timm of Dixon followed shortly after Mr. Nelson and now produces over 2100 quarts daily. The Hutton Bros., also of Dixon, are gradually building up a well-paying plant of about 100 cows. Mr. Herzog has recently taken over the original certified plant known as the Ideal Farms and is turning out the same product under the name of Sleepy Hollow Ranch.

During the year it has been necessary to make some changes in the methods of paying our experts. Part of the product of dairies certified by us is sold on the other side of the Bay and must bear the certificate of the Alameda County Commission. Formerly we paid our own experts, collecting from the dairies a pro rata according to the amount of milk certified. But the double certification made this plan so cumbersome that now by an agreement with the Alameda County Commission, a single set of reports is accepted by both Commissions and the experts are paid according to the services rendered directly by the dairies.

The expenses of the Commission are paid by a charge of \$1.25 per thousand for the certificates.

We have held several meetings with the Alameda Commission for the purpose of conferring as to ways and means for improving the service. Much good has come of these meetings and I think that we shall find that a closer association with the Commission across the Bay will be necessary.

The Society has very wisely decided that the Commissioners shall be elected for five years, one new member being appointed each year. Our younger members have been a most welcome addition to the Commission, bringing a new fund of enthusiasm and willingness to work possibly needed by those to whom the constant routine has become more or less monotonous.

The Commission has been fortunate in having the valuable services of Dr. Geo. S. Baker and Nathan Moran, Esq., as lay members. Dr. Geo. S. Baker, Inspector in Charge of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry, has been most faithful in his attendance at our meetings, and most generous with his expert advice and no small amount of our success has been due to his wise counsel.

The Commission, in conjunction with the Alameda Commission, sent Dr. Baker as a delegate to the meeting of the American Association of Medical Milk Commissions in Philadelphia in April of this year and we have all felt that the investment was well repaid by the fund of added interest which he brought back to us.

Whenever legal questions have arisen in the transaction of our business, Mr. Moran has been kind enough to assist us with most valuable advice and the thanks of the Society are most certainly due him.

A report from the Medical Milk Commission would be incomplete without an expression of thanks to Dr. Adelaide Brown, whose faithful and earnest work as Secretary has been the principal factor of our success.

The Society will be interested to know that during the year seventeen regular and special meet-

ings have been held. In addition to attendance at these meetings, monthly visits have as a rule been made to each of three dairies by members of the Commission serving alternately.

The value of the investments in certified milk plants now directed by us may be conservatively estimated at \$350,000. About 500 milk cows, tested and examined, are producing 3,900 quarts of milk daily.

During the current year the cash receipts of the Commission have been \$2,674.08 and the disbursements \$2,372.25, leaving a balance of \$301.83.

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS SAYRE MACE, President.

#### MEDICAL SECTION.

Mr. President and Members of the San Francisco County Medical Society:

The Medical Section has held monthly meetings except in June, and apparently the programs have been interesting and pleasing to all.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Medical Section.

#### SURGICAL SECTION.

The attendance and class of work presented at the Surgical Section during the second year have demonstrated the wisdom of dividing the Society into sections and also the benefits accruing from occasional joint meetings with the other sections.

We strongly urge enforcement of the rule requiring the posting of papers in the library one week prior to their presentation. This rule has been the means of improving the character and extent of the discussions and has even produced some interesting prefatory remarks.

DUDLEY TAIT, Chairman.

#### UROLOGICAL SECTION.

A preliminary meeting of the organization was held in April, 1911, when the section was organized. Dr. M. Krotoszyner was elected Chairman and Dr. W. P. Willard, Secretary. It was decided to hold section meetings on the fifth Tuesdays of those months in which the calendar showed five Tuesdays.

Meetings were held on the fifth Tuesday in May, August, and October, and one meeting was held on the first Tuesday in December in connection with the section on Internal Medicine. There was a full program presented at each meeting and an increasing attendance of members was noticeable.

Respectfully,

MARTIN KROTOSZYNER, Chairman.

#### EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT SECTION.

I wish to report a very prosperous year. At each and every meeting we have had a well written paper that was worthy of the effort in every instance. We have also had two or more cases presented at every meeting for observation and diagnosis. During the year we have had Professor Fuchs with us, one of the greatest celebrities of the age in ophthalmology. Docent Dr. Frey has also been with us, and no doubt we have all been benefited by his stay in San Francisco. The attendance among the specialists themselves has been

poor. I do not know how to account for this and will only comment that those who have remained away have been the losers. The attendance of the general medical men has been reasonably good; this very attendance should stimulate every Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat man in San Francisco to something better. I wish to recommend to the incoming President that one of our number be put on the Library Committee so that we make a beginning of a library for the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat community. I would further recommend more earnest co-operation among our own members. It would have a double effect, that on the community at large and it would promote a better fellowship among our own members.

CULLEN F. WELTY, Chairman.

#### SOME REMARKS ON SO-CALLED "AUTOMOBILE FRACTURES."\*

By W. H. WINTERBERG, M. D., San Francisco.

The fact that there is much misconception among both the laity and physicians about just what a so-called automobile fracture is and how it is caused is perhaps excuse enough for bringing before you a subject which has been well worked out and cases of which are becoming less yearly.

When I use the term "automobile fractures"—they are also called chauffeur's fracture, automobile crank fractures—I mean cases of fracture of the lower and usually outer end of the radius caused by the sudden and violent reversal of the starting crank of an automobile—the so-called "kick-back." Furthermore, only those fractures of the radius which are produced indirectly by the force acting through the palm of the hand are meant. Direct fracture caused by the crank flying back and striking the wrist, hand or, what is more usual, the forearm, have no especial interest as they vary greatly as those produced by striking that part of the upper extremity with an iron bar corresponding to the crank handle in size. The type to be described, "the automobile fracture," is a clinical entity and has definite etiology, a characteristic anatomy and distinct clinical features.

*Etiology.* I feel it not necessary to go into detail why the so-called kick-back takes place. Suffice it to say that under certain conditions—conditions which by the way can almost always be avoided and which the self-starting devices will soon entirely remove—the crank handle while being pushed down is suddenly forced with great violence against the palm in the direction of the outer and lower part of the radius. The hand is twisted backward and abducted and in all typical cases the lower part of the radius is detached. Writers on the subject are not entirely agreed that this is the correct explanation of the action of the mechanical force; and at one time I had in mind to reproduce this fracture artificially, but you can readily understand the difficulties of such a procedure and the idea was given up.

However, I believe the violence is transmitted upward and outward and the hand wrenched in

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